

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*We believe that God is healing and restoring the world,
and that we are recipients of and participants in that healing and restoration.*



SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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Morning Prayer, Rite II

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Hymn 601

O Day of God Draw Nigh

1 O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty and in power, come
2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid, the
3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure, and
4 Bring to our world of strife thy sov - ereign word of peace, that
5 O day of God, draw nigh as at cre - a - tion's birth, let

1 with thy time - less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.
2 qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.
3 fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.
4 war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.
5 there be light a - gain, and set thy judg - ments in the earth.

Opening Sentence

Officiant: Thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, “I dwell in the high and holy place and also with the one who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite.”

Isaiah 57:15

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling:

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Officiant stands and says:

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

All stand, as able.

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Officiant: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

People: Come let us adore him.

Officiant and People:

Jubilate *Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

The people are seated.

Psalm 119:129-136



When your word goes forth it gives light.

Your decrees are /wonderful;*
therefore I obey /them with all my heart.
When your word goes forth it gives /light;*—
it gives understanding /to the simple. [ANTIPHON]

I open my /mouth and pant;*
I long for /your commandments.
Turn to me in /mercy,*
as you always do to /those who love your Name. [ANTIPHON]

Steady my footsteps in /your word;*
let no iniquity have do/minion over me.
Rescue me from those who op/press me,*
and I will keep /your commandments. [ANTIPHON]

Let your countenance shine upon your /servant*
and teach /me your statutes.
My eyes shed /streams of tears,*
because people /do not keep your law. [ANTIPHON]



Readings

A period of silence will follow each reading.

1 Kings 3:5-12

The people remain seated.

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Silence.

All stand, as able.

Canticle 12 A Song of Creation *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini*
Song of the Three Young Men, 35-65

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, *
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.
Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, *
all winds and fire and heat.
Winter and Summer, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, *
drops of dew and flakes of snow.
Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, *
O shining light and enfolding dark.
Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Romans 8:26-39

The people are seated.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Silence.

All stand, as able.

Canticle 21 You are God *Te Deum laudamus*

**You are God: we praise you;
You are the Lord; we acclaim you;
You are the eternal Father:
All creation worships you.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:
 Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaim you;
 Father, of majesty unbounded,
 your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
 and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you became man to set us free
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge.
 Come then, Lord, and help your people,
 bought with the price of your own blood,
 and bring us with your saints
 to glory everlasting.**

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

The people are seated.

Officiant: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Silence.

All stand, as able.

Canticle 19 The Song of the Redeemed *Magna et mirabilia*
Revelation 15:3-4

**O ruler of the universe, Lord God,
great deeds are they that you have done, *
surpassing human understanding.
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, *
O King of all the ages.**

**Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,
and sing the praises of your Name? *
for you only are the Holy One.
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, *
because your just and holy works have been revealed.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The people are seated.

The Sermon

Rev. Paul Moore

Sermon Meditation Questions: 8th Sunday after Pentecost

1. Where do you wish you knew the presence of the love of God more fully?
2. Where is doing the hard work of the wisdom of compassion especially challenging right now?
3. How does your beloved community give you an opportunity to share strength and comfort?



1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God
 2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,
 3. You do not live by bread a - lone,
 4. Where two or three are gath - ered in my name,
1. Bus - quen pri - me - ro el rei - no de Dios
2. Pi - dan, pi - dan y se les da - rá,
3. Só - lo de pan, di - ce Dios, no vi - vi - rán,



and seek his right - eous - ness,
 seek, and you shall find,
 but by ev - 'ry word,
 there am I in their midst;
y su per - fec - ta jus - ti - cia,
bus - quen y ha - lla - rán.
si - no de to - da pa - la - bra

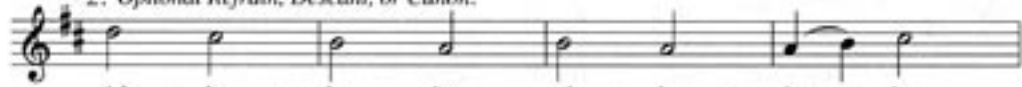


and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you;
 knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you;
 that comes forth from the mouth of God;
 and what - so - ev - er you ask I will do;
y lo de - más a - ña - di - do se - rá;
Lla - men, lla - men: la puer - ta se a - bri - rá;
que les ven - drá de la bo - ca del Se - ñor;



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 A - le - lu, a - le - lu - ya.

2. *Optional Refrain, Descant, or Canon:*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu, a - le - lu - ya.

Apostles' Creed

All stand, as able.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

All stand, as able.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

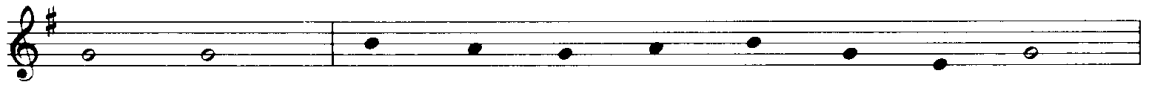
Officiant and People:



Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in



hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



For - give us our sins as we for - give those who



sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial,



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom the pow - er,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Officiant and People say responsively:

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
- V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
- V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
- V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
- V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
- V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collects

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness while it was day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in you and you in us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

1 Rise up, ye saints of God! Have done with less - er things, give
 2 Rise up, ye saints of God! His king - dom tar - ries long: Lord,
 3 Lift high the cross of Christ! Tread where his feet have trod; and

heart and soul and mind and strength to serve the King of kings,
 bring the day of truth and love and end the night of wrong,
 quick-ened by the Spi - rit's power, rise up, ye saints of God!

Prayers of the People

Reader: On this day we praise our God for the dying which destroyed our death, and we pray for our world in need of life.

Reader: From our self-absorbed ways and overly inward eyes,
People: Free us, O God of Life.

Reader: From our oblivion to the effects of our actions on others,
People: Free us, O God of Love.

Reader: From our blindness to the sins of our society,
People: Free us, O God of Community.

Reader: From our inaction in the face of needless suffering,
People: Free us, O God of Justice.

Reader: To those who lead, here and afar,
People: Give the wisdom of your Life, O God.

Reader: To those who suffer needlessly,
People: Give the comfort of your Love, O God.

Reader: To those who now see You face to face,
People: Give them their share in your divine Community, O God.

Reader: To those who strive for your kingdom,
People: Give them the vision of your justice, O God.

Reader: To life that is greater than mere living,
People: Lead us, O God of Life.

Reader: To others who need us across the distances,
People: Lead us, O God of Love.

Reader: To growth in directions we did not foresee,

People: Lead us, O God of Community.

Reader: To living witness to your resurrected life,

People: Lead us, O God of Justice.

The People may add their own petitions.

Officiant: To the One who is the road on which we travel, our companion along the way, and our journey's end, we pray in boldness and confidence through faith in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People:

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Closing Hymn

**Here I Am Lord
(I the Lord of Sea and Sky)**

Next page.

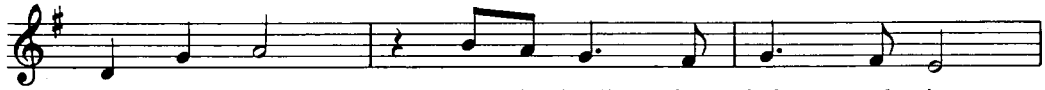
Officiant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13:14

Here I Am Lord (I the Lord of Sea and Sky)



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin
 peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.
 poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.



My hand will save. I who made the stars of night,
 They turn a - way. I will break their hearts of stone,
 My hand will save. Fin-est bread I will pro - vide



I will make their dark - ness bright. Who will bear my
 Give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my
 Till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my



light to them? Whom shall I send?
 word to them. Whom shall I send?
 life to them. Whom shall I send?



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.



I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Offertory - Thank you for giving!

Please drop your offering in the church's mailbox or mail it to:

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
415 S. 18th Street
Mount Vernon, WA 98274

Your Vestry members request your prayers for this congregation and their leadership. They want to be in conversation with you. Speak with them so they know the needs of the congregation:

Bonnie Schuh
Dan Niven

Susan Cooper
Sara Young

Sandy McDougall
Margaret Bird

St. Paul's Prayer Team prays daily for those on the prayer list. Please email Penny Worrell at *penny.worrell@gmail.com*.

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Morning Prayer:

Until we can meet together once again, our Sunday Morning worship will generally be Morning Prayer, as per the Bishop's instruction. For those who remember the days in the Episcopal Church when the Eucharist was only celebrated once a month, these days may have a familiar feel. For those of us who do not, it feels like a Eucharistic Fast. It has been so described by others who have written about our current situation. In the liturgical reforms of the 1970's the Eucharist has become the center of Sunday worship. Now, however, because of the worldwide pandemic, we are back to Morning Prayer as our regular fare.

What is Morning Prayer? It is a rite originally developed for the Benedictine monastic life in England in the Medieval period. Monks and nuns prayed seven times a day. Four of those prayer services became popular among the common people, Morning Prayer (or Matins,) Noonday Prayers (or Non,) Evening Prayer, (or Vespers,) and Compline. Matins and Vespers grew into full-blown services in themselves. Matins came to fill in on Sunday mornings when a priest was not available to preside at the Eucharist.

In the American church, the term Matins is rarely used, preferring the more descriptive, Morning Prayer. The rite became very popular in the western expansion precisely because it could be led by lay people. Our Prayer Books throughout the years have reflected this, always including a well-constructed rite. Our current one is no exception.

Adapted as it is for lay leadership, you will notice that the lay form for the absolution is provided for in the rubrics (instructions written in italics and smaller size.) There is no provision for a sermon. It has always been an Anglican thought that the Bible, read aloud to the people in their own language, was the foundation of spiritual formation in worship. When used as the primary service on Sunday, a sermon is usually inserted where we do it, or after the Creed, or even just before the dismissal. Rubrics for a blessing are also omitted.

The structure of the rite borrows from the synagogue worship of the early Jewish Christians, just like the first part of a Eucharistic service. It follows the same format of an introductory rite, readings from Scripture, prayers and a dismissal. Because Morning Prayer's focus is Scripture and Prayer, the introductory rites and the readings themselves are more elaborately done, and the prayers are more extensive. At St. Paul's, after the Collects, where the rubrics allow for "other authorized intercessions," we insert another set of prayers that focus our petitions on concerns of our time and place.

Because it is not a Eucharistic service, the services do not employ the liturgical colors. Instead of a white alb and stole, the presider often wears a black cassock, a white surplice over it, and a tippet. The tippet looks like a black stole, but it is really an academic vestment. It often has emblems of academic affiliations attached near the tips. Fr. Paul's has an Episcopal shield, and the shields of two seminaries from which he holds degrees. A simple alb with no stole may also be used.

Welcome to Saint Paul's!

We hope that your worship with us will be both inspirational and spiritually nurturing. Please feel free to participate in the worship service as much or as little as you wish. The prayer book gives directions as to when we stand, sit, or occasionally kneel; these are guidelines. What is more important is that you bring your complete self to worship God.

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table. We use real wine in the cup. If you wish to receive only a blessing, simply cross your arms in front of you as the priest approaches. If you do not want to drink from the chalice, keep the piece of bread on your open palm, and present it to the chalice bearer, who will then dip the bread into the wine and place it on your tongue. Non-gluten bread is also available. Please inform us if this is your preference.

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The Reverend Paul Moore <i>Rector</i>	254-368-6475	padrequiteno@gmail.com
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